

## FIN

FINE. *adj.* [*finne*, French; *fin*, Dutch and Erie, perhaps from *finitus*, completed, Latin.]

1. Not coarse.  
Not any skill'd in loops of fingering *fine*,  
With this so curious net-work might compare. *Spenser*.  
He was arrayed in purple and *fine* linen. *Luke*.

2. Refined; pure; free from dross.  
Two vessels of *fine* copper, precious as gold. *Exra* viii. 27.  
3. Subtle; thin; tenuous: as, the *fine* spirits evaporate.

4. Refined; subtly excogitated.  
In substance he promised himself money, honour, friends,  
and peace in the end; but those things were too *fine* to be for-  
tunate, and succeed in all parts. *Bacon*.  
Whether the scheme has not been pursued so far as to draw  
it into practice, or whether it be too *fine* to be capable of  
it, I will not determine. *Temple*.

5. Keen; thin; smoothly sharp.  
Great affairs are commonly too rough and stubborn to be  
wrought upon by the *finer* edges or points of wit. *Bacon*.  
6. Clear; pellucid; transparent: as, the wine is *fine*.

7. Nice; exquisite; delicate.  
Are they not senseless then, that think the soul  
Nought but a *fine* perfection of the sense. *Davies*.  
The irons of planes are set *fine* or rank: they are set *fine*,  
when they stand so shallow below the sole of the plane, that  
in working they take off a thin shaving. *Moxon's Mech. Exer.*

8. Artful; dexterous.  
The wisdom of all these latter times, in princes affairs, is  
rather *fine* deliveries, and shiftings of dangers and mischiefs,  
than solid and grounded courtes to keep them aloof. *Bacon*.  
9. Fraudulent; sly; knavishly subtle.

Through his *fine* handling, and his cleanly play,  
He all those royal signs had stol'n away. *Habberd's Tale*.  
10. Elegant; with elevation.  
To call the trumpet by the name of the metal was *fine*. *Dry.*

11. Accomplished; elegant of manners.  
He was not only the *finest* gentleman of his time, but one  
of the *finest* scholars. *Felton on the Classics*.  
12. Keenly; sharply; with a thin edge or point.

Get you black lead, sharpened *finely*, and put it into quills.  
*Peachment on Drawing*.  
3. Not coarsely; not meanly; gaily.  
He was alone, save that he had two persons of honour, on  
either hand one, *finely* attired in white. *Bacon's New Atlantis*.

4. In small parts; subtly; not grossly.  
Saltpetre was but grossly beaten; for it should not be *finely*  
powdered. *Boyle*.  
5. [Ironically.] Wretchedly; in such a manner as to deserve  
contemptuous notice.

Let laws be made to obey, and not to be obeyed, and you  
will find that kingdom *finely* governed in a short time. *South*.  
For him the loves:  
She nam'd not me; that may be Torridom,  
Whom he has thrice in private seen this day.

Then I am *finely* caught in my own snare. *Dryd. Sp. Fygar*.  
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and if at the first it struck not admiration, it ravished with  
delight. *Sidney*.

The softness of her sex, and the *fineness* of her genius, con-  
spire to give her a very distinguishing character. *Prior*.  
2. Show; splendour; gaiety of appearance.  
The *fineness* of cloaths destroys the ease: it often helps men  
to pain, but can never rid them of any: the body may lan-  
guish under the most splendid cover. *Decay of Piety*.

3. Subtlety; artfulness; ingenuity.  
Those, with the *fineness* of their souls,  
By reason guide his execution. *Shaksp. Troil. and Cressida*.  
4. Purity; freedom from dross or base mixtures.  
Our works are, indeed, nought else  
But the protractive trials of great Jove,  
To find perceptive constancy in men;  
The *fineness* of which metal is not found  
In fortune's love. *Shaksp. Troilus and Cressida*.

I am doubtful whether men have sufficiently refined metals;  
as whether iron, brass, and tin be refined to the height: but  
when they come to such a *fineness* as serveth the ordinary use,  
they try no farther. *Bacon's Natural History*.

The ancients were careful to coin their money in due  
weight and *fineness*, only in times of exigence they have dimi-  
nished both the weight and *fineness*. *Arbutnot on Coins*.

FINERY. *n. f.* [*finne*, French.] Show; splendour of appearance;  
gaiety of colours.  
Dress up your houses and your images,  
And put on all the city's *finery*,  
To consecrate this day a festival. *Southern*.

The capacities of a lady are sometimes apt to fall short in  
cultivating cleanliness and *finery* together. *Swift*.  
Don't chide your place of study by the *finery* of the prospects,  
or the most various scenes of sensible things. *Watts*.

FINESSE. *n. f.* [*finne*, French; stratagem: an unneces-  
sary word which is creeping into the language.  
A circumstance not much to be stood upon, in case it were  
not upon some *finess*. *Hayward*.  
FINER. *n. f.* [*finne*, French.] One who purifies metals.  
Take away the dross from the silver, and there shall come  
forth a vessel for the *finer*. *Prov. xxv. 4*.

FINGER. *n. f.* [*finger*, Saxon, from *fangan*, to hold.]  
1. The flexible member of the hand by which men catch and  
hold.  
The *fingers* and thumb in each hand consist of fifteen bones,  
there being three to each *finger*: they are a little convex and  
round towards the back of the hand, but hollow and plain  
towards the palm, except the last, where the nails are. The  
order of their dispositions is called first, second, and third pha-  
lanx: the first is longer than the second, and the second longer  
than the third. The upper extremity of the first bone on  
each *finger* has a little finis, which receives the round head of  
the bones of the metacarpus. The upper extremity of the  
second and third bones of each *finger* hath two small finises,  
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to the wrist and second of the thumb, as they are to the wrist  
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bones, called *ossa sesamoides*, because they resemble sesamum  
grains: they are reckoned about twelve in each hand: they  
are placed at the joint of the fingers, under the tendons of  
the flexors, to which they serve as pulleys. *Quincy*.

You seem to understand me,  
By each at once her choppy *finger* laying  
Upon her skinny lips. *Shaksp. Macbeth*.  
Diogenes, who is never said,  
For aught that ever I could read,  
To whine, put *finger* i' th' eye and sob,  
Because h' had ne'er another tub. *Hudibras*.

The hand is divided into four *fingers* bending forward, and  
one opposite to them bending backwards, and of greater  
strength than any of them singly, which we call the thumb,  
to join with them severally or united; whereby it is fitted to  
lay hold of objects of any size or quantity. *Ray on the Creat*.  
A hand of a vast extension, and a prodigious number of  
*fingers* playing upon all the organ pipes of the world, and  
making every one sound a particular note. *Kel against Burnet*.  
Foot Peg leaved, spun, and knit for a livelihood, 'till her  
*finger* ends were sore. *Arbutnot's Hist. of John Bull*.

2. A small measure of extension.  
Go now, go trust the wind's uncertain breath,  
Remov'd four *fingers* from approaching death;  
Or seven at most, when thickest is the board. *Dryd. Yvet*.  
One of these bows with a little arrow did pierce through a  
piece of steel three *fingers* thick. *Watkins's Math. Mag.*

3. The hand; the instrument of work; manufacture; art.  
Fool, that forgets her stubborn look  
This softness from thy *finger* took. *Waller*.  
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One that is covetous is not so highly pleased with the meer  
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being considered as a wealthy man. *Grew's Cosmol. Sac*.

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His ambition would needs be *finer*ing the scepter, and  
boasting him into his father's throne. *South's Sermons*.  
3. To touch an instrument of music.  
She hath broke the lute;  
I did but tell her the mistook her frets,  
And bow'd her hand to teach her *finer*ing. *Shaksp. Henry IV*.

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Not any skill'd in loops of *finer*ing *fine*,  
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We agree in nothing but to wrangle,  
About the slightest *finglefangle*. *Hudibras*, p. iii. can. 3.

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A whorl, glazifying, superfluous, *finical* rogue. *Shaksp. King Lear*.  
I cannot hear a *finical* fool romancing, how the king took  
him aside at such a time; what the queen said to him at an-  
other. *L'Estrange's Fable 34*.

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## FIN

To FINE. *v. a.* [*finne*, the adjective.]  
1. To refine; to purify.  
The *fining* pot is for silver, and the furnace for gold. *Prov.*  
There is a vein for the silver, and a place for gold, where  
they *fine* it. *Jab xxviii. 1*.

2. To embellish; to decorate. Now not in use.  
Hugh Capet also, who usurp'd the crown,  
To *fine* his title with some shews of truth,  
Convey'd himself as heir to th' lady Lingare. *Shaksp. H. V.*

3. To make less coarse.  
It *fines* the grass, but makes it short, though thick. *Mortim*.  
4. To make transparent.  
It is good also for fuel, not to omit the shavings of it for  
the *fining* of wine. *Mo timer's Husbandry*.

5. [From the substantive.] To punish with pecuniary penalty.  
To *fine* men one third of their fortune, without any crime  
committed, seems very hard. *Luke*.

To FINE. *v. n.* To pay a fine.  
What poet ever *fin'd* for sheriff? or who  
By rhymes and verse did ever lord mayor grow? *Oldham*.

To FINE DRA'W. *v. a.* [*fine* and *d'au*.] To sow up a rent  
with so much nicety that it is not perceived.  
FINE DRA'WER. *n. f.* [*finne*, French.] One whose business is  
to sow up rents.

FINEFINGERED. *adj.* [*fine* and *finger*.] Nice; artful; ex-  
quisite.  
The most *finfinger'd* workman on the ground,  
Arachne, by his means was vanquish'd. *Spenser*.

FINELY. *adv.* [*finne*, French.]  
1. Beautifully; elegantly; more than justly.  
Plutarch says very *finely*, that a man should not allow him-  
self to hate even his enemies; because, says he, if you indulge  
this passion on some occasions, it will rise of itself in others.  
*Addison's Spectator*, No. 125.

The walls are painted, and represent the labours of Her-  
cules: many of them look very *finely*, though a great part of  
the work has been cracked. *Addison on Italy*.

2. Keenly; sharply; with a thin edge or point.  
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other. *L'Estrange's Fable 34*.

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FINICALNESS. *n. f.* [*finne*, French.] Superfluous nicety; fop-  
pery.  
TO FINISH. *v. a.* [*finir*, French; *finis*, Latin.]  
1. To bring to the end purposed; to complete.  
For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not  
down first and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to  
*finish* it? *Luke xiv. 28*.  
As he had begun, so he would also *finish* in you the same  
grace. *2 Cor. viii. 6*.

A poet uses episodes; but episodes, taken separately, *finish*  
nothing. *Notes on the Odyssey*.  
2. To perfect; to polish to the excellency intended.  
Though here you all perfection should not find,  
Yet is it all th' Eternal Will design'd;  
It is a *finish'd* work, and perfect in his kind. *Blackmore*.  
I would make what bears your name as *finished* as my last  
work ought to be; that is, more *finished* than the rest. *Pope*.

3. To end; to put an end to.  
FINISHER. *n. f.* [*finne*, French.]  
1. Performer; accomplisher.  
He that of greatest works is *finisher*,  
Oft does them by the weakest minister. *Shaksp. Henry IV*.

2. One that puts an end; ender.  
This was the plain condition of those times; the whole  
world against Athanasius, and Athanasius against it: half an  
hundred of years spent in doubtful trials which of the two, in  
the end, would prevail; the side which had all, or else that  
part which had no friend but God and death, the one a de-  
fender of his innocency, the other a *finisher* of all his troubles.  
*Hooker*, b. v. f. 42.

3. One that completes or perfects.  
The author and *finisher* of our faith.  
O prophet of glad tidings! *finisher*. *Adrian's Paradise Lost*, b. xii.  
Of utmost hope!

FINITE. *adj.* [*finitus*, Latin.] Limited; bounded; termi-  
nated.  
Servius conceives no more thereby than a *finite* number for  
indefinite. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*, b. iv. c. 12.  
*Finite* of any magnitude holds not any proportion to infi-  
nite. *Locke*.

That supposed infinite duration will, by the very supposi-  
tion, be limited at two extremes, though never so remote  
asunder, and consequently must needs be *finite*. *Bentley's Serm.*  
FINITELESS. *adj.* [*finitus*, Latin.] Without bounds; unlimited.  
It is ridiculous unto reason, and *finiteless* as their de-  
sires. *Brown's Vulgar Errors*.

FINITELY. *adv.* [*finitus*, Latin.] Within certain limits; to a  
certain degree.  
They are creatures still, and that sets them at an infinite  
distance from God; whereas all their excellencies can make  
them but *finutely* distant from us. *Stillingfleet*.

FINITENESS. *n. f.* [*finitus*, Latin.] Limitation; confinement  
within certain boundaries.  
I ought now to unbay the current of my passion, and love  
without other boundary than what is set by the *finiteness* of  
my natural powers. *Norris*.

FINITUDE. *n. f.* [*finitus*, Latin.] Limitation; confinement  
within certain boundaries.  
*Finitude*, applied to natural or created things, imports the  
proportions of the several degrees of affections, or properties  
of these things to one another; infinitude, the unboundedness  
of these degrees of affections, or properties. *Cleane*.

FINLESS. *adj.* [*finitus*, Latin.] Without fins.  
He angers me  
With telling of the moldwarp and the ant,  
And of a dragon and a *finless* fish. *Shaksp. Henry IV*.

FINLIKE. *adj.* [*fin* and *like*.] Formed in imitation of fins.  
In shipping such as this, the Irish kern  
And untought Indian, on the stream did glide;  
Ere sharp-keel'd boats to stem the flood did learn,  
Or *finlike* oars did spread from either side. *Dryd. Ann. Mir.*

FINNED. *adj.* [*fin*, French.] Having broad edges spread out on  
either side.  
They plow up the turf with a broad *finned* plough. *Mortim*.

FINNY. *adj.* [*fin*, French.] Furnished with fins; formed for  
the element of water.  
High o'er the main in wat'ry pomp he rides,  
His azure car and *finny* couriers guides;  
Proteus his name. *Dryden's Virg. Georg. b. iv*.  
New herds of beasts he sends the plains to share;  
New colonies of birds to people air;  
And to their oozy beds the *finny* fish repair. *Dryd. Ovid*.

While black with storms the *finny* fish repair,  
And from the fisher's art defends her *finny* tholes. *Blackmore*.  
With hairy springs we the birds betray;  
Slight lines of hair surprize the *finny* prey. *Pope*.

FINTOED. *adj.* [*fin* and *toe*.] Palmipedous; having a mem-  
brane between the toes.  
Such creatures as are whole footed, or *finnted*, viz. some  
birds and quadrupeds, are naturally directed to go into the  
water and swim there. *Ray on the Creation*.

FINOCHRO.